



## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

### Statement of Elizabeth Blomfield

27 June 2023

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (“the Inquiry”) as a witness. This statement has been prepared from my own knowledge and also from perusing the records of the Inquiry. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is Elizabeth Blomfield. My address is known to the Inquiry.
2. I am employed as a solicitor by the Inquiry.
3. In the course of my duties, I have reviewed and conducted inquiries in relation to the death of John Russell (**Mr Russell**) who died between 22 – 23 November 1989.

#### Conference with Sally Dunbar/Johnston

4. On 5 May 2023, I spoke to Sally Johnston (née Dunbar) in relation to her involvement as the Officer in Charge of Mr Russell’s matter in 1989.
5. Ms Johnston did not recall anything about Mr Russell’s clothing being cleaned.
6. Ms Johnston did recall police using a dummy that was to be dressed in clothing similar to the clothes Mr Russell was wearing on the night that he died. She remembered conducting searches for clothes similar to Mr Russell’s.
7. Ms Johnston could not remember if in the end the dummy was dressed in Mr Russell’s actual clothing.
8. Ms Johnston recalled speaking to a person from the Star Observer and having photos taken of the dummy.

Signature:

*E. Blomfield*

Name:

Elizabeth Blomfield

Date:

27 June 2023